

**SACRAMENTO RIVER CONSERVATION AREA  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

June 22, 2000  
6:30 P.M.

Colusa Courthouse Annex  
Colusa, CA

**Draft MINUTES**

Chair Denny Bungarz called the meeting of the Sacramento River Conservation Area to order at 6:43 p.m. in the Colusa County Courthouse Annex, Colusa, CA.

It was determined that there was a quorum of a minimum of eight voting members present (11). Introductions of Board were made:

<u>County</u>	<u>Public Interest</u>	<u>Landowner</u>	<u>Agency</u>
Butte	Jane Dolan		Shirley Lewis
Colusa	David Womble	Ben Carter	
Glenn	Denny Bungarz	Jason Larrabee	
Shasta	Glenn Hawes		<i>(Dan Gover)</i>
Sutter	Dick Akin		<i>(Russell Young)</i>
Tehama	Bill Borror		Brendon Flynn
Yolo	Lynnel Pollock		<i>(Not yet appointed)</i>
The Resources Agency			<i>(Mel Dodgin)</i>
Cal DWR			Bill Bennett
Cal DFG			Diana Jacobs
State Reclamation Board			Pete Rabbon
US COE			Mark Charlton
US Bureau of Reclamation			<i>(Basia Trout)</i>
US F&WS			Jim McKevitt

*Names listed in italics and () represent absence*

Also present - Coordinator Burt Bundy, Tim Ramirez-Resources Agency, Stacy Cepello-DWR, plus an audience of approximately 50 interested persons.

Chair Bungarz informed the meeting that the board had met previously in closed session in accordance with the Brown Act to discuss the personnel issue of hiring of a manager for the non-profit organization.

Jane Dolan moved to recruit for the position of manager for this non-profit organization and following this recruitment, the Board will select a manager to provide staff support to the Board. This position will start October 1, 2000. We would recognize that Burt Bundy is the Coordinator of the NPO during this interim period and request that he do duties for the Board and recruit for an assistant to be appointed by the Board. Seconded by Lynnel Pollock. Motion carried. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

The Chair asked Board's permission to hear guest speaker who must catch a plane from Sacramento.

Burt Bundy introduced Bill Miller, rancher from New Mexico and spokesman for the Malpai Borderlands Group, who had addressed the Great Valley Meeting earlier today. He has been involved with ranching activities and conservation practices in New Mexico and Arizona.

Bill Miller gave a brief history of his family who came to the ranch area in 1898. About 6 years ago a group of ranchers came together to discuss land tenure and land use that is so important to their future. The million plus acres they are dealing with is 53% fee title land and 47% state and federal land. The controversial 'Grey Ranch' is one of the key players in the issue. This ranch, over 300,000+ acres, was being threatened to be subdivided when The Nature Conservancy stepped up and purchased the land and felt it best to turn the Grey Ranch back to a cattle ranching situation and sought a private buyer. They established a private foundation, now operating under private ownership and paying taxes as in the past, while maintaining a strict conservation easement. Ranchers, through open dialogue with state and federal partners, developed a "Catalyst of Fire" to establish a long term fire burn plan. They set three conditions: 1) let it burn, 2) watch it and advise, 3) contain it. The simple map plan was adopted by state and federal agencies at a savings of \$1.4 million. "We have successfully had two large burns. Through our continued effort to work with all players including the EPA, we are about to receive full prescription for the whole million acres involved in the plan, that just on notification we can burn. The morale is: if you are informed, sit and talk to your neighbors, your most difficult problem can and will be overcome."

Chair Bungarz thanked Bill for his interesting and enlightening presentation. Bill Miller offered his help and assistance in any way possible to California groups.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Marc Faye appointed landowner rep from Yolo County; Tom Ellis appointed alternate landowner rep from Colusa County with Supervisor Bill Waite as the public interest alternate; Glenn County's alternate landowner rep is Jerry Southam. All but Marc Faye were in attendance.

MINUTES: Lynnel Pollock moved, seconded by Brendon Flynn to approve the May 31, 2000 minutes as mailed with the correction of Bruce McGowan's name. Motion carried by unanimous vote of the Board.

#2 Update on the incorporation and tax-exempt filing process: Burt Bundy stated paper work for incorporation is complete, signatures to be secured tonight and filed. Tax-exempt process is ongoing.

#3 Technical Advisory Committee Ad Hoc establishment of Technical Advisory Committee. Jane Dolan reported on development of Tech Advisory Committee as listed.

Members - designated (wide participation, not limited size)

1. One for every signatory to MOA (18)
2. Each county will be asked to designate a staff person (7)
3. Added Rep from: Sacramento Valley Landowners Association, Family Water Alliance, Sacramento River Preservation Trust, NORCAL Fishing Guides & Sportsmans Association, The Nature Conservancy, County Farm Bureaus (7), County Cattlemen Associations (7), Sacramento River Contractors Association, Northern California Water Association

Notice and Process

1. Meet where the issue is
2. Notices to anyone or groups who request

3. Prepare report in time frame Board specified, as requested by Board
4. How decisions are to be reported--to Board by vote or attempt to reach consensus
5. Focus on technical issues and aspects not policy recommendations
6. Advisory to Board

#### Functions

1. To provide technical and scientific support to board.
2. To be a forum for exchange and technical information
3. Identify potential solutions that can gain maximum support
4. To identify impending policy issues for referral to Board
5. Designate chair

Questions raised by the Board: involvement of special agencies; mailing list; funding of county participation; advisory council and technical committee will not overlap; technical committee will be making decision as directed by the Board.

Public comment: Citizen asked if someone from the Board will be on the technical committee. Chair stated that the coordinator would be the Board representative and would report at a designated time.

Chair asked the consensus of the Board to review the document to finalize at the next meeting. The Technical Advisory Committee format will be formally adopted at the next meeting.

#### #5 Board discussion of CalFed direction for the Sacramento River

“Cal Fed Framework for Action” report it was noted that SB 1086 was referred to twice in the report.

Tim Ramirez from the Resources Agency commented that the report was developed by the highest policy makers in the Federal and State agencies. He stated that this document commits Governor Davis to the program and in working through the process, all concerned will be heard. There are many questions yet to be answered and he would like to come back in July and make a presentation on the Restoration sites of CalFed. The Chairman will put the item on the July agenda. Jim McKevitt offered to also include a Central Valley Project Improvement Act briefing with the CalFed presentation.

Short recess...

#### #6 Stacy Cepello, DWR, gave a presentation on the Geographical Information System (GIS).

The Sacramento River Watershed is 27,000 sq. miles and supplies 80% of the fresh water to the delta, 90% of the sediment, drives the world's 6th largest economy, and is a national treasure with a diverse and productive fishery and over 250 wildlife species in area. The Sacramento River is both a natural and a cultural ecosystem that has been, and still remains, the focus of SB1086. The presentation on the Inner River Flood Zone and the origin of the conservation area, namely the inner river zone and the river's “area of influence”, was very informative to all. Chair Bungarz thanked Stacy for his talent and great presentation.

#### #7 Other issues for discussion: Board

David Womble requested to re-discuss the by-laws at the July meeting. Chair requested that all agenda items be submitted to Chair or Coordinator by the 15<sup>th</sup>, prior to meeting date, so agenda is mailed 7-10 days prior to the meeting. The Coordinator would work on getting the agenda on the web site. Requested

that FWA and NCWA issues be included in agenda items.

#8 Other issues: Public

Rich Bottini, Family Water Alliance, handed out a flyer that depicted gross value per acre for agricultural land in Colusa County. He spoke to the impact being a loss of \$109,650,000 per year on 152,292 acres to the County. At this point Coordinator Bundy interrupted him by saying that he objected to FWA using false data to film a misleading commercial, noting the FWA film crews present. Bundy later apologized to Rich Botini for interrupting him and indicated that he shared concerns about impacts from agricultural land conversion and hoped Rich and FWA would continue to voice valid concerns.

NEXT MEETING: July 27, 2000, 6:30 p.m Red Bluff, CA meeting place TBA  
August 24, 2000 Butte Co., time & place TBA

Respectfully submitted,

Burt Bundy,  
Coordinator  
(Joyce Bundy)